



NOW ON SALE.

**THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY  
FOR CHINA, JAPAN, &c.  
FOR 1880.**

With which is incorporated "THE CHINA  
DIRECTORY".This Work, THE ONLY one of the kind in China  
or Japan, is now in theEIGHTEENTH YEAR,  
in its existence, and is NOW READY for SALE.It has been compiled from the Most AUTHEN-  
TIC SOURCES, and no pains have been spared to  
render it THOROUGHLY RELIABLE both as a  
Dictionary and as a Work of Reference on Com-  
mercial Matters.The Work is embellished with the following  
Plans and Maps—Chromolithograph Plans of  
VICTORIA, Hongkong, of CANTON, the FO-  
REIGN SETTLEMENTS at SHANGHAI; a Chromolithograph Plate of the CODE OF  
SIGNALS in use at VICTORIA, PEAK; and  
Maps of the COAST of CHINA and HONG-  
KONG.

## NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON AND CO.,  
FAMILY AND DISPENSING  
CHEMISTS,

By Appointment to His Excellency the Go-  
vernor and his Royal Highnesses the  
DUKE of EDINBURGH,  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,  
PERFUMERS,
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,  
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLYMEN,  
AND  
AERATED WATER MAKERS;SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFFITED,  
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [31]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.  
Communications on Editorial matters should be  
addressed to "The Editor," and those on business "The  
Manager," and not to individuals by name.Advertisers for publication should be written on  
one side of the paper only.Advertisements which are not ordered for a fixed  
period will be continued until cancellation.Correspondents are requested to forward their names  
and address with communications addressed to the  
Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good  
faith.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MAY 11TH, 1880.

The news from Europe by the French mail does not give much hope of a peaceful settle-  
ment of the difficulty between Russia and China. The only foundation that the hopes expressed on the subject by a correspondent of *The Times* appear to rest upon is the belief that China is not in a position to cope with Russia. But this is a fact that may be less apparent to the rulers of Peking than to European publicists. The Russian papers assert that the Russian Government will make no concession, and intend to insist upon the ratification of the Kuldja Treaty. Commenting upon this statement, the Vienna correspondent of the leading London journal pithily remarks:—"If there is to be no change made in the Convention already drawn up, it is difficult to understand why another Chinese negotiator should be sent to St. Petersburg, instead of efforts being put forth in Peking to get the Convention ratified." It is indeed rather remarkable that the Marquis Tseso should have been despatched to St. Petersburg instead of the Chinese Government conducting negotiations with the Russian Ambassador at Peking. Only one plausible explanation of this course presents itself to our mind. Preratification is the guiding principle in Chinese diplomacy, and the authorities at Peking have probably seen that by sending another Envoy to St. Petersburg they would gain time. This is of importance to them, as it will enable them to make preparations for war, while no doubt they trust to its developing some new situation. The interval so far has not been wasted by China, for warlike preparations have been actively going on since the Imperial Council decided to reject the treaty at all risks.

In St. Petersburg it is believed that the refusal of Russia to give up certain leaders of the Kuldjaans has been the main, if not the only, cause of the split between the two countries and the disgrace of Ch'ing How. The Russian journals say that according to the treaty, China was to pay an indemnity of five millions of roubles; two-thirds of the province of Ili (Kuldja) were to return to China and only one-third to remain to Russia. The demand of Russia to establish commercial consuls in various places in China was only agreed to with regard to a consular agency in Kuldja. There was no question of opening out new factories for Russian goods in Mongolia or Manchuria. The Chinese Ambassador positively refused any such demand, which had to be abandoned in the end by the Russian Government. Prince Gorchakov promptly rejected the demand for the surrender of the Makhomedan chiefs, it being the opinion of General Kaufmann that compliance with it would provoke a strongly hostile feeling to Russia among the tribes of Central Asia, a belief not without good foundation. But though this refusal may have had some influence on the decision of the Chinese Government with regard to the Kuldja Treaty, we still believe that the retention by Russia of the most valuable part of Kuldja, including the passes, was the chief cause that induced the Peking Authorities to reject the treaty and disgrace its negotiator. That agreement is obviously one-sided; such an one as a great and not very scrupulous Power, conscious of its own strength, would seek to impose on a feeble State. It is possible that the rulers of China may have thought more of the danger of a contest and less of the loss in prestige, money, and territory involved in the acceptance of the Treaty since Ch'ing How was first cast into prison, and may be disposed to be satisfied with some very slight concession, but unless this should be the case there is little hope of peace being maintained, save by the intervention of the great Powers.

The British barque *Airkland* arrived at Ham-  
burg on the 28th March from Hongkong.The Italian corvette *Vettor Foscari*, Captain  
H.R.H. the Duke of Genoa, is shortly expected  
at this port.The British ship *Annes Muir*, Captain J.  
Love from Hongkong for Brunel, was at Dou-  
glas on the 28th March.The American ship *Southern Cross* arrived at  
San Francisco, from Hongkong, on the 28th  
March, having made the passage in 63 days.The Agents (Messrs. Adamsen, Holl & Co.)  
inform us that the steamer *Mertonshire*, from  
London, left Singapore yesterday for Hongkong.The barkentine *Katie Fleckinger* arrived in  
San Francisco on the 18th March, from Hong-  
kong, having accomplished the passage in sixty-  
two days.The British steamer *Gordon Castle*, Captain  
Waring, arrived at New York on the 25th March  
from Hongkong, having had her decks swept by  
a head sea.A parade and inspection of the Government  
and Volunteer Fire Brigades took place yes-  
terday afternoon. There was a good attendance  
of firemen and plentiful streams of water were  
poured. From the time given to start at the  
cross road until water was playing upon the  
Plaza was thirteen minutes and a quarter.In their Ten Report, dated the 21st April  
Messrs. Watson and Co., of Colaba, say—  
"Public sales were held on the 13th April, when  
600 chests, Old Saxon's and 200 packages New  
Season's Toys were sold. For the latter very  
few rates were paid, being about equal to the  
opening prices of last year to a trifles under."The following were the vessels on the berth at  
Hongkong, on the departure of the last  
mail, April 2nd.—At London—Steamers—  
"Mersey", "Flora Castle", "Oxford",  
"Merseydale", "A. T. Wood", "John A.  
Price", Sailing vessel—"Cathay", "Con-  
queror", "Keppler", "Orion", and "South America".At an auction held yesterday by Messrs. Es-  
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OSTRICH FEATHERS.  
FOR SADE, BEST GENUINE OSTRICH FEATHERS, of different sizes and colours, dressed and undressed, at very moderate prices, and suitable for Ladies' Hats.

COWASJEE D. DADACHANJEE,  
12, Peel Street.  
Hongkong, 9th January, 1880. [121]

## FOR SALE.

C H A M P A G N E, 1874,  
HERDSKICK & CO.'S  
M O N O P O L E,  
DEETEN & CO.,  
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1877. [109]

## FOR SALE.

C U T T L E E, P A L M R E'S  
CELEBRATED  
WINES AND COGNAC.  
Price List on application.  
BLACKHEAD & CO.,  
Hongkong, 1st November, 1877. [103]

## FOR SALE.

C H A S. HEIDSIECK'S CHAMPAGNE,  
1874, "WEINSTECK."  
\$20 per case of 12 dozen pints.  
\$19 per case of 1 dozen quarts.  
CHATEAU LEONVILLE POYFERRE, 1863,  
"VIN DES PRINCES."  
\$18 per case of 1 dozen quarts.

PALMER MFG CO.  
\$7 per case of 1 dozen quarts.  
\$8 per case of 2 dozen pints.  
CHATEAU BELAIRE,  
\$7 per case of 1 dozen quarts.  
LOREMONT,  
\$5 per case of 1 dozen quarts.  
\$6 per case of 2 dozen pints.  
SEIMSEN & CO.,  
Hongkong, 13th February, 1880. [27]

## NOW ON SALE.

T H E HOUSEHOLD COMPANION  
AND STUDENT'S FIRST ASSISTANCE,  
By DE DEVAN.  
With many Additions, Corrections,  
and Dr. WILLIAMS' Orthography.  
PRICE.  
In Paper Wrapper..... \$1.50  
Neatly Bound..... \$2.00  
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S U N H I N G,  
DEALER IN SILKS,  
Canton Gauze, Embroidered Crepe Shawls,  
Laquered and Ivory Woods, Curiosities, Ornaments, Inlaid Chairs & Tables, China Ware, &c.;  
GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERS,  
ENGRAVERS OF STAMPS, SEALS, &c., &c.,  
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S T E A M LAUNCHES always ready for  
Towing Vessels to Sea or in Harbour.  
TOWAGE TO WHAMPAO.  
Rates cheaper than any other Firm.  
Captains are invited to call personally.

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SCHEIDT & CO., Shanghai,  
Sub-Agents for Hongkong,  
GROSSMANN & CO., Hongkong.

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CLARETS, at \$13, \$9, \$5, \$7, \$6, and \$4  
per Case of 1 Dozen Quarts.

SHERRIES, at \$10, \$9, \$8, and \$7 per  
Case of 1 Dozen Quarts.

CHAMPAGNE, at \$10 per Case of 2 Dozen  
Pints.

CHAMPAGNE, at \$12 per Case of 1 Dozen  
Quarts.

HOCK, at \$9 per Case of 1 Dozen Quarts.  
BRANDIES, \*\*\* and \*\*\*\*, at \$7, \$4, \$10,  
and \$11 per Case of 1 Dozen Quarts.

Detailed Price List on application to  
SIMSEN & CO.,  
Hongkong, 6th January, 1880. [28]

## NOTICE.

T H E Undersigned Firm has been established  
in Hongkong for more than THIRTY  
YEARS, and has never had a branch establish-  
ment anywhere. All Orders for Goods have been  
executed under our own supervision and the best  
of care.

We have always enjoyed the patronage and  
confidence of the Gentry and Merchants of  
Hongkong and Ports near and far, but now we  
are afraid that as another firm has lately been  
started having SIMILAR HONG NAME, our  
Customers may be misled and induced to think  
it is identical with ours.

Accordingly we give notice that we have no  
connection with the other, and respectively ask our Customers and the Public  
to pay particular attention to our Address, given  
below, and our Chop, which is stamped on all  
our Goods, and without which none are genuine.

S U N H I N G,  
Fancy Goods and Silks Shop,

62, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,  
Opposite the former site of the Chartered Bank.  
Hongkong, 3rd April, 1880. [617]

## NOW ON SALE.

IMPERIAL QUARTO.

E N G L I S H A N D C H I N E S E  
DICTIONARY WITH THE PEGUAN MANDARIN  
TRANSLATION.

An Anglo-Chinese Dictionary, published at the  
Daily Press Office, Hongkong.

For comprehensive and practical service this Work stands unrivaled. All the new words which have come into use during the last year have been added, and the whole vocabulary contains about 15,000 Chinese characters, and Merchant's English and Chinese Dictionary about 100,000, whilst this work contains more than 50,000 English words, and upwards of 300,000 Chinese characters.

Again, despite all the grammar and other explanatory works as yet published, the study of this unique language is absolutely re-  
quired to give the student a knowledge of the  
Chinese language, and the equivalents of different words which have one general meaning. Of these examples this work contains more than five times as  
many as any other Dictionary hitherto pub-  
lished.

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the work is so complete, that a reference to its  
pages will enable the student to find English  
words and their equivalents with native who  
understand nothing but Chinese. In this respect  
the work will be found indispensable to all  
Europeans residing in China, and to the natives  
themselves it explains subjects fully with which  
few if any of them are perfectly acquainted.

To parties resident in England and interested  
in China, it cannot but be invaluable occasion-  
ally.

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quarto pages.

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## INSURANCES.

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M A R I N E I N S U R A N C E C O M P A N Y  
L I M I T E D .

The Undersigned, having been appointed  
AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared  
to GRANT POLICIES on MARINE RISKS  
to all parts of the World.

Agents  
SIMSEN & CO.,  
Hongkong, 14th August, 1878. [92]

L I V E R P O O L A N D L O N D O N G L O B E  
I N S U R A N C E C O M P A N Y.

From this date, until further notice, a dis-  
count of twenty per cent. (20%) upon the  
current local rate of Premium will be allowed  
on Insurances effected with this Company.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,  
Agents  
Hongkong, 27th June, 1877. [17]

STANDARD FIRE OFFICE, LONDON.

The Undersigned, having been appointed  
Agents for the above Company, are prepared  
to grant Policies against FIRE to the extent of  
\$50,000 on Buildings or on  
Goods stored therein.

Discount 20%  
VOGEL & CO.,  
Hongkong, 1st March, 1878. [25]

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned are prepared to grant  
POLICIES AGAINST FIRE to the extent of  
\$50,000 on Buildings or on  
Goods stored therein, on Current Local Rates,  
subject to a Discount of 20% on the Premium.

NORTON & CO.,  
Agents  
Hongkong, January, 1876. [18]

SUN FIRE OFFICE.

The Undersigned are prepared to grant  
POLICIES AGAINST FIRE to the extent of  
\$50,000 on any Building or on  
Goods stored therein, on Current Local Rates,  
subject to a Discount of 20% on the Premium.

LINTHREAD & CO.,  
Agents Sun Fire Office.  
Hongkong, 1st June, 1878. [23]

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE  
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ESTABLISHED 1809.

CAPITAL \$200,000.

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POLICIES AGAINST FIRE to the extent of  
\$50,000 on any Building or on  
Goods stored therein, on Current Local Rates,  
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GILMAN & CO.,  
Agents  
Hongkong, 7th July, 1874. [19]

TEA TAI INSURANCE COMPANY  
(LIMITED).

THE Undersigned will be allowed  
upon Insurances effected with this Company.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,  
Agents  
Hongkong, 27th March, 1876. [13]

PHOENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

FROM this date, until further notice, a dis-  
count of Twenty per cent. (20%) upon the  
Current Local Rate of Premium will be allowed  
on Insurances effected with this Company.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,  
Agents  
Hongkong, 27th June, 1876. [16]

FOR SINGAPORE, SYDNEY, AND  
MELBOURNE.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"GEELONG"

will leave for the above TO-DAY, the 11th  
instant, at 4 P.M.

A. MCIVER, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1880. [77]

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY.

THE Spanish Ship

"EMUY."

Captain Blane, shortly expected, will have im-  
mediate despatch for the above Port.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
REMEDIOS & CO.,  
Hongkong, 5th May, 1880. [78]

FOR COOKTOWN, SYDNEY, AND  
MELBOURNE.

Calling at PORT DARWIN if sufficient induc-  
ment offers, and taking Cargo and Passengers  
of through rates for all AUSTRALIAN AND NEW  
ZEALAND PORTS.

THE Steamer

"JAVA."

JO. RIDDER, Commander, will be despatched as  
above on THURSDAY, the 13th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
GEO. R. STEVENS & CO.,  
Hongkong, 1st May, 1880. [79]

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND  
CALCUTTA.

THE Steamer

"SUEZ."

Captain Blane, will be despatched as above on  
SATURDAY, the 14th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,  
Hongkong, 8th May, 1880. [79]

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND  
CALCUTTA.

THE Steamer

"POLE."

Captain Blane, will be despatched as above on  
SATURDAY, the 14th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DAVID SASSON, SONS & CO.,  
Hongkong, 8th May, 1880. [79]

FOR SHANGHAI.

Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates  
for CHEKIANG, NEWCHANG, TIENTHIAH, HANKOW,  
and POOTS on the YANGTZE.

THE Company's Steamship

"HARBOUR."

Will leave for the above PORT, the 15th instant,  
at 3 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DAVID SASSON, SONS & CO.,  
Hongkong, 8th May, 1880. [79]

FOR SHANGHAI.

Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates  
for CHEKIANG, NEWCHANG, TIENTHIAH, HANKOW,  
and POOTS on the YANGTZE.

THE Company's Steamship

"HARBOUR."

Will leave for the above PORT, the 15th instant,  
at 3 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DAVID SASSON, SONS & CO.,  
Hongkong, 8th May, 1880. [79]

FOR MANILA.

THE Al British Ship

"ARATTOON APCAR."

Captain Blane, will be despatched as above on  
THURSDAY, the 13th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
RUSSELL & CO.,  
Hongkong, 24th April, 1880. [79]

FOR NEW YORK.

THE Al American Bark

"ELLIWA."

Winters, Master, will load here for the above  
Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL & CO.,  
Hongkong, 23rd April, 1880. [69]

FOR YOKOHAMA, VIA NAGASAKI.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"OBESTES."

Captain Blane, will be despatched on or  
about the 15th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUT

## EXTRACTS.

## TWO PICTURES.

(I.—Lovers in a Garden. II.—A Widow knitting by an empty Cradle.)

(I.—A widow in a garden, knitting.

A widow, with sunny tresses gleaming,

Rowed down beneath dim trailing ways.

A row of sunflowers by a path.

A wicket lop over the path,

A summerhouse, with wuthing trailing,

And ivy creeping 'o'er the thatch.

A fountain on the garden gravel.

A quick-living heart, a whisper'd word;

A youth, burst brown with foreign travel,

Come back to claim a hope deferred.

(II.—Happy, happy time of Love's beginning.

Ever we can dream that storms are near!

Sunlight gleaming, birds warbling, thrushes singing

Golden Summer of the Soul and of the year!)

II.

A garter in a city bazaar,

A pale soul worn all alone;

A weary wane' on life's highway,

Poor and forsaken and unknown;

What need to kiss the little stork?

Or strive again for daily bread?

Why set an angry cradle rocking?

The weather has for ever laid!

Yes, both are gone; purchased his better!

She sighs at length: "Tis bitter so!"

Then bends to read a tattered letter,

Or turns to watch the falling snow.

(Ah, bitter, bitter time of Sorrow's weeping,

Ever we can dream that storms are near!

Snow is falling, how're we fading, hearts are breaking,

Wasty Winter of the Soul and of the year!)

TOO CLEVER BY HALF.

A Quaker shopkeeper once met a Quaker customer of his going home with her bundle.

"How much did she give a yard for this, Mary?"—Five shillings?—"Why, I am surprised at that! I could let her have it for three shillings and sixpence. And how much for this?"—Ten shillings?—"Why, that was unreasonable. I could have let her have it for seven and sixpence. Why will she go away trading with strangers, Mary?"—I don't know what she is talking about, friend John," she said; "but I did buy all these things at thy shop, and if they say the truth, they must owe me considerable money."

A HASTY JUDGMENT.

An awkward affair which recently occurred to a straight-faced Judge on the Western Circuit has been the subject of much mirth.

It appears that, having finished his labours, and having cast off his forensic wig at his lodgings, he had retired into the next room to wait for his brother Hugo, whom he was about to accompany to dinner at the house of one of the local aristocracy. The female servant of the house had entered the bed-chamber by a side door, and, not knowing that the Judge was in the next room, in a frolic armed herself in his wig. Just at the moment when the fair Hugo was admiring herself in the looking-glass, the judge unexpectedly entered the room; and poor Sarah, catching a sight of the steen-conteuneau looking over her shoulder in the glass, was so alarmed that she fainted, and would have fallen to the ground if the learned judge, impelled by humanity, had not caught her. At this critical moment his learned brother arrived, and, opening the dressing-room door with a view to see it was ready, discovered his learned brother with the fainting maid in his arms. He quickly attempted to withdraw, when the other vociferated, "For Heaven's sake stop and hear this matter explained!"—Never mind, my dear brother—the matter explains itself." And he left his learned brother to restore the fainting maid as best he could.

## ANECDOTAL PHOTOGRAPHS.

## THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

The feeling which comes uppermost in the mind of any one who sees the Czar for the first time is one of sincere pity. He is a large, ox-eyed man, evidently of good intentions, but with a look of sadness and perplexity in him. His voice is harsh, the grinding of a coffee-mill out of order, for an affection of the throat, under which he has long suffered, renders speech painful to him. He would have made a very amiable gentleman, and could have got far more ease and amusement out of life if he had handled all the botheration of government over to his brother Constantine, who has a taste for that sort of nonsense. He himself could hardly have wanted to reign. It was the Schouvaloffs, the Lamberts, the Baratinskys, the Adelbergs, the Dolgoroukys, and some others who desired he should be a ruler of men. They were for ever gadding and coaxing him by turns, as beef is driven to market for those who wish to roast it. They must often have had a difficult task, for his ponderous Majesty (good, easy man) is slothful and hoary-witted by nature. He must have been frequently unable to understand even what was wanted of him. He is subject to melancholy periods of hypochondriasis, during which existence seems but a dreary blank to him. He is haunted by fears of sudden death, and by the dread of assassination. At these times he moans over an apparently solitary walk with a large dog, but there is always a policeman ready to keep the surmiser from approaching him. When well he devotes much of his time to tailoring, changing his costume with much studied carelessness, and he likes to be attended by a hump-backed Privy Councillor, who acts as foil to his fine figure, and sets it off, for he is a well-built man, tall and straight, though rather German in the rotundity of certain of his curves.

His father, Nicolas, who was in many respects a notable sovereign, had very carefully brought up, and foreseen that he would want support, perhaps devotion, in after life, to counteract hisanity, surrounded him with some select young men who could be relied upon. The little band of offsprings have hung together ever since. They have lived without the Emperor without interruption from the time of his accession until now. He provides for their wants; they dip their fingers into his purse whenever they are minded.

He is a loosely-hung Emperor, more like the good fellow of a free-and-easy than the despotic master of millions, when in the midst of these in families. He has been known to sit in his shirt-sleeves, astride on a chair, bob-sitting with them.

The late Count Stroganoff, who was a prey chevalier, and a very high-pacing person generally, once broke in upon the party thus employed. The Emperor looked at him with those unutterably incurious eyes of his, and held out a champaign glass to be refilled from a bottle which stood by. The old soldier drew himself up and answered sternly: "Let those who love you less than I do perform that service." The Czar showed no sign of displeasure, but within a few months Stroganoff was deprived of his offices, though he was nearly connected with the Imperial family, his son having married the Grand Duchess Marie.

When his Majesty is in the humour he plays a good deal at cards with his own chums, and it is rather a good thing for these gentlemen, for wherever any one of them is in want, the Czar will loss to the sum of which he stands in need, as a delicate way of giving it; and this method of bestowing substantial favours is perfectly well understood among them.

The Czar is a good shot, and has done some grand things on bears. He sometimes wears a pelisse which once costed a fine bear, he brought low with his own hands, and it has

been so exquisitely dressed that it is valued at about two thousand pounds, which is even more than is ever paid either for the table or the black bear. He can ride, too, though not in the English fashion, and he would be paraded by sharp lads across country, which his physicians have recommended him to do.

His parental deportment is excellent. He stands and marches well. He shows to advantage in uniform, though for several years he has willingly clothed himself in saunter. His manners are those of a gentleman, and there is something extremely sympathetic about him. He produces the impression that one would like to know him better, if only he were not an Emperor. It is this unfortunate circumstance which takes the dignity out of him, sets him upon his dignity, and gives a certain funniness to his aspect. His father really could be dignified, but he can't. There is a chubbiness and nervousness in his proceedings upon great occasions which reminds one more of a drunkard or a flegmen of Landshut than of an emperor.

He has very little power. If bureaucracy in England is hard to bear, in Russia it is awful. They are a race of profoundly ignorant people like the Russians, who have got firm hold of the haze and rigmarole of German chanceries, and the rest will become plain.

The Imperial family, too, are German, having come in and in with Teutonic droppings for ever so long, and there is not a drop of Russian blood in their veins. It is needless to add, therefore, that the Czar has an insatiable respect for traditions, and the rules of departments. Mousie, indeed, he can give, and does give very freely to his friends, but he has little or no patronage. He once ordered a free pass to be given to somebody to enable him to get some things through two custom-house free of duty, and the Minister of Finance made such a fuss about it that the Imperial order was practically worthless. A hundred rubles to a custom-house toll would have done the business effectually; the Czar's interference only botched it. Nobody, of course, presumed to oppose his commands, only they are not obeyed. If he repeats them the same thing happens. It is insisted on in a very rare case he is met by delays and technical objections.

It is well for him that he has some attached companions, or his life would be quite a bore. He has alienated the nobles from him by ruining them in hundreds. The emancipation of the serfs was a death-blow to many who had nothing but serfs to live upon, and the free-bore are anything but a satisfactory peasant. All the trade of the country is, in the hands of Jews, and Jews labour under such humiliating disabilities in Russia that they have but small love for his Majesty. He is unpopular with the army, for he is not a professional soldier, and has none of that military spirit which distinguished his father.

There has now grown up a coldness between him and his wife too. He had better have kept well with her, and she on her part had better have overlooked what she was overjoyed. It is not much as times go, or as they ever went. The Empress is very fair, from a vicious or licentious man, and he is nobody's enemy but his own, save when frightened. Perhaps she might have been more popular, but she was not.

Between the two, the judge unex-pectedly entered the room; and poor Sarah, catching a sight of the steen-conteuneau looking over her shoulder in the glass, was so alarmed that she fainted, and would have fallen to the ground if the learned judge, impelled by humanity, had not caught her. At this critical moment his learned brother arrived, and, opening the dressing-room door with a view to see it was ready, discovered his learned brother with the fainting maid in his arms. He quickly attempted to withdraw, when the other vociferated, "For Heaven's sake stop and hear this matter explained!"—Never mind, my dear brother—the matter explains itself." And he left his learned brother to restore the fainting maid as best he could.

THE VAGARIES OF JURIES.

"You really did steal the horse, didn't you, Hodges?" remarked the learned counsel to his client, after securing his acquittal on the charge of "smoking" the animal. "Well," replied the fortunate man, "I thought I did till I heard you address the jury, and then I felt sure that I didn't." Probably, writes a contemporary, the equally lucky individual whom an intelligent jury at the Somerset Quarter Sessions recently exonerated from all blame in connection with a theft of which he had admitted he was guilty, is by this time doubtful of his culpability. He was charged with stealing a duck and a fowl, and the evidence for the prosecution could leave no doubt of his guilt in the minds of reasonable men. One witness deposed to seeing the prisoner leave the premises, where he was not employed, and where dead birds

were immediately afterwards found. Moreover, as we have said, the prisoner admitted the theft at the time of his arrest. Yet the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty. It appears that this is not the first time that Somerset juries have thus distinguished themselves, for in another case of fowl-stealing tried at the Somerset Assizes, the Lord Chief Justice expressed his astonishment that the jury should have acquitted the prisoner because no one had seen him in the act of committing the theft, though the evidence against him was sufficiently clear. The Walton jury seem to have considered that circumstantial evidence, even supported by the prisoner's own admission of guilt, is not strong enough to justify a conviction. Mr. Rogers, the presiding magistrate, very properly ordered them to be discharged. He supposed that they must have thought that "the duck and the chick placed themselves side by side in the coachhouse, covered themselves up, and killed one another."

Addressing the prisoner, Mr. Rogers observed: "You are a lucky fellow. You were seen to go into the place from where the duck and the chick were missed, and from thence to the place where they were found. Besides this, when charged you admitted the offence. The jury think you were mistaken as to your guilt; and that you did not steal the poultry; although, no doubt, at the time you thought you had done so. You are discharged, and I advise you to be more careful about your conduct for the future."

THE DIVER'S CALLING.

Notice one of these divers as enveloped in his strange attire, he descends a ladder from the boat-side, or lets himself quietly drop into the crystal waters of the Tay, among the hidden remnants of a dreadful tragedy.

Seeing him sink out of sight, an onlooker cannot fail to be impressed with the nerve and powers of endurance required for such a task. In this case its difficulty is increased

not only by the velocity of the current—sometimes exceeding five knots an hour—but also by the nature of the wreck which the brave hero has gone down to explore. The bed of the river is bottomed with broken girder and shattered railway carriages, among which there is not only the danger of getting fatally entangled, but also the fear that some sharp edge may chance to cut the tube upon which his life mainly depends.

With some anxiety, therefore, on the man's own account, as well as eagerly anticipating his discoveries, spectators await his return. During this interval of suspense, we can to some extent watch his movements, for a circle of air bubbles constantly rising to the surface show, if the water be tolerably smooth, the diver's course as he cautiously gropes his way along. These bubbles are formed by the foul or superstitious air, which seeps at his breathes from a patent valve opening outwards, and thus preventing the entrance of water. During high tide, in calm weather, it is possible to see a distance of several feet at the bed of the channel; but for a week or two after that terrible accident at Tay Bridge, the river was so turbid that nothing could be seen below the surface. It was consequently in perfect darkness that the divers had to work, their dismal search being carried on by carefully feeling any object with which they came into contact whilst "walking along in the deep, dark, silent gloom."

And yet, after two hours' descent, they somehow become familiar with the ground, and gain confidence from an instinctive acquaintance with the relative position of their surroundings, just as a blind man does in moving about on land. Of the half-drowned divers employed at Dundee, some made as many as six or seven descents daily, varying in duration from 5 to 42 minutes. Considering the weight of their gear, the men themselves would be less fatigued and embarrassed with a longer continuous spell of work under water than with ascending and descending so often; but in this instance it was impracticable to remain down long. It was, however, some time, on returning, before they exhausted their complement and features are no sufficient criterion, for most divers, although of strong constitution, are fatigued and embarrassed with a summary of all the usual complaints which have been printed about him for the last twenty-four hours throughout Europe. It is proposed by a special committee appointed for the purpose, and His Majesty takes care that it shall spare him no pang of this self-inflicted torture, for he will not trust a professional diver to do it lest he should glut over the truth and endeavour to make things pleasant for promotion's sake. A Bonar, however, a confection of Scotland in furniture, an assemblage of stalwart figures, and some of them owing to suffering in health from the peculiar nature of their duties. One essential qualification is that they should be of naturally good health and sober habits.—*Chamber's Journal.*

SCHOOLS IN EUROPE.

The New York Press makes the following comparison of schools and school attendance in different European countries:—Germany, with a population of 42,000,000, has 60,000 schools and an attendance of 6,000,000 pupils; France, with a population of 36,000,000, has 59,000 schools and 3,000,000 pupils; Austria-Hungary, with a population of 37,000,000, has 30,000 schools and 3,000,000 pupils; Italy, with a population of 37,000,000, has 71,000 schools and 4,700,000 pupils; Spain, with a population of 17,000,000, has 20,000 schools and 1,600,000 pupils; and Russia, with a population of 74,000,000, has 32,000 schools and 1,100,000 pupils.

## HONGKONG MARKETS.

As Enriched by China, on the 10th May, 1880.

COTTON GOODS.

American Drills, 30 yards, per piece ... \$1.91 to 2.10

Cotton Yarn, No. 16 to 21, per 100 lbs. ... \$1.90 to 1.95

Cotton Yarn, No. 28 to 32, per 100 lbs. ... \$1.90 to 1.95

Cotton Yarn, No. 38 to 42, per 100 lbs. ... \$1.90 to 1.95

Chintz, pieces ..... \$1.70 to 1.75

Dyed Sateen Shirts, per piece ..... \$1.65 to 1.70

Dyed Brocades, shirts, per piece ..... \$1.60 to 1.65

Long silk Drills, 30 yards, per piece ..... \$1.55 to 1.60

English Drills, 30 yards, per piece ..... \$1.55 to 1.60

French Drills, 30 yards, per piece ..... \$1.55 to 1.60

Grey Shirts, 7 lbs., per piece ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 8 lbs., per piece ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 9 lbs., per piece ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 10 lbs., per piece ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 11 lbs., per piece ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 12 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 13 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 14 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 15 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 16 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 17 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 18 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 19 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 20 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 21 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 22 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 23 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75

Grey Shirts, 24 lbs., per pair ..... \$1.65 to 1.75